

BAILEY O'DONNELL

Tabla Player | Percussionist | Composer

Bailey O'Donnell is a Tabla player, percussionist, and composer whose background lies at the intersection of two very diverse musical traditions. After studying Western Classical percussion for more than a decade, she met her Guru, Grammy-winning Tabla maestro Sandeep Das, and became his apprentice to learn Tabla and North Indian Classical Music. Drawing on these unique experiences, she often works as a kind of “musical translator”, facilitating inter-cultural and educational exchanges.

Bailey has performed with various ensembles at venues like Carnegie Hall, the Chicago Symphony Hall, TivoliVredenburg in the Netherlands, and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, China. She assisted her Guru's re-imagination of the traditional Bengali song, “Ekla Cholo Re” (which premiered with Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble), and has also presented workshops at institutions like the University of British Columbia, Boston Conservatory, Dartmouth College, and more.

(2023) Dartmouth College - Guest Artist

Guest Artist for a masterclass on Indian Classical Vocal music for the “Music and Dance of North India” class. Also a teaching assistant for the semester-long course

(2023, 2019) Celebrity Series of Boston - Teaching Assistant

Teaching assistant at a winter music camp for 20+ children learning tabla

(2022) Silkroad Creativity Lab at Boston Conservatory (Spring 2022)

Teaching assistant for a semester-long course on Indian Classical Music by Sandeep Das. Involved teaching 20+ conservatory students the basics of playing tabla. Organized by the Silk Road Ensemble.

(2022) Antara Asthaayi Dance - Guest Artist

Guest artist working with young students age 9-13 learning Kathak Dance in Santa Cruz, CA. Taught students how to dance with live tabla accompaniment.

(2020) Ted Atkatz Percussion Seminar - TAPS OSI Faculty

Faculty member for an online percussion seminar, also presented a masterclass on Tabla.

(2018) “Vaishnavi” - Composition Assistant

Assisted in the notation and orchestration of Sandeep Das’ original composition, which was commissioned by the Smithsonian National Museum of Asian Art.

(2016) “Castles of Ice” - Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Long Beach, CA

Premiered an original composition for Vibraphone.

Transcending Borders One Note at a Time

Conceptualized and spearheaded by Sandeep Das, [Transcending Borders One Note at a Time](#) (TBONT) is a response to recent world events and a concerted effort to harness the transformative power of music to catalyze positive social change. TBONT brings together masters of artistic traditions from across the globe to produce new works that are uniquely innovative yet deeply rooted in their original cultural heritage, then takes them beyond the concert hall and into local communities through a variety of outreach activities. As part of my ongoing apprenticeship with Mr. Das, I have assisted in the production of TBONT projects such as:

(2024) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Kabul”, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

(2024) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Kabul”, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

(2024) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Kabul”, Ismaili Center, Houston, TX

(2023) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Istanbul”, Lincoln Center, New York, NY

(2023) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Istanbul”, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN

(2022) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Damascus”, Carolina Performing Arts, Chapel Hill, NC

(2022) “Sandeep Das: Delhi to Shiraz”, Millersville University, Millersville, PA

Education

Tabla Studies with Pt. [Sandeep Das](#) the traditional “Guru-Shishya Parmapara”

2016 - Present

Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance

2018

Bob Cole Conservatory of Music - Long Beach, CA